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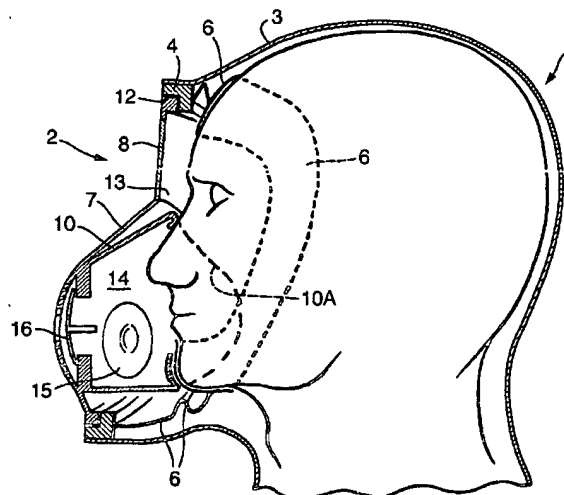
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(54) Title: RESPIRATOR ASSEMBLY



(57) Abstract: A respirator assembly e.g. for NBC protection is formed from two separate sub-assemblies (1 and 2). The first sub-assembly (1) comprises a flexible hood (3) (or other suitable headgear), a rigid mounting ring (4) and a peripheral face seal (6). The second sub-assembly (2) comprises a face plate (7) with lens (8), oronasal mask (10) and inlet and outlet valves (15, 16), and is demountably attachable to the ring (4). The first sub-assembly can be worn on its own with the user breathing ambient air through the open front, the second sub-assembly being added if and when a hazard is encountered. The positioning of the face seal (6) in the first sub-assembly means that a comfortable and reliable fit can be ensured when that sub-assembly is donned prior to a mission, but the user is relieved of the physiological burden of wearing the complete respirator unless and until protection is required.

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